

Dear FCC,I oppose the continued consolidation of media outlets in the United States, and would like you not only to reject the proposed rule changes, but to take steps to further limit the number of newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations a single company or individual can own. The dangers of media concentration were quite evident to me during the second Iraqi war. Pretty much all the newspapers, TV stations, and radio stations were saying the same things. I ended up going to foreign web sites to try to get a different information. I've also seen the effects of media ownership here in Ithaca, NY. The major papers you'll see here are the Ithaca Journal, the Syracuse Post-Standard, and the USA Today - all owned by Gannett. The Ithaca Journal and Syracuse Post-Standard recycle USA Today stories, with perhaps a mild smattering of local news. Everything is politically correct and geared to not offending advertisers, and guaranteed not to cause controversy. And surrounding rural communities (Enfield, Newfield) are only mentioned if there are assaults & murders. Overall, not representative of the community, and BLAND AS HELL! By comparison, my hometown newspaper (The Bloomsburg Morning Press, Bloomsburg, PA) is independently owned, fiesty as hell (you should see their issues where they publish all the school district salaries - from the janitor to the teachers to the superintendent), and has far better coverage of local culture and issues than anything I've seen in Ithaca. The same consolidation issues apply to radio stations as well. I've stopped listening to the local FM stations because there is very little variety in the types of music and news present - instead, I try listening to the Ithaca College radio station - they carry advertising like the other stations, but have far more varied and interesting programs - and they talk about what is going on locally!. In summary, further consolidation of TV, radio, and newspaper ownership is bad for our country, our democracy, and for our communities at the local level. and I urge you to reject the proposed rule changes, and to take new steps to further limit the number of TV, radio stations, and newspapers any one entity can own.

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Filing
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01-235
<DATE> 5/31/03</DIV>

<DIV><NAME> Bruce

McKee
<ADDRESS1> 204

Oak Hill Road
<ADDRESS2>
<CITY>

Ithaca
<STATE>

NY
<ZIP>

14850
<LAW-FIRM>
<ATTORNEY>
<FILE-NUMBER>
&

lt;DOCUMENT-TYPE>

RC
<PHONE-NUMBER>

607-257-7662
<DESCRIPTION>
<CONTACT-EMAIL> bwmckee@twcny.rr.com
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FCC,
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